

REMARKS

Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-12 will be all the claims pending in the application. Claims 13-38 have been canceled. Applicants expressly reserves the right to file a continuing application directed to canceled claims 13-38 at a later date.

In the Office Action dated September 22, 2005, claims 1-12 were indicated as being allowed.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that with the entry of the proposed amendments, the present application will be in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-12 is respectfully requested.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

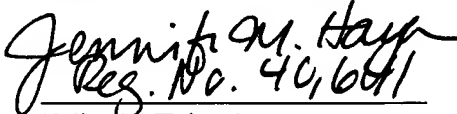
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23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Respectfully submitted,


Reg. No. 40,601

Keiko K. Takagi
Registration No. 47,121

Date: January 23, 2006 (timely filed, January 22, 2006 being a Sunday)